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## THE WHOLE OF SOUTH VIET NAM IN EFFERVESCENCE

- In 3 Days, Saigon, Da Nang, Hue, 60 Other Urban Centres and more than 20 U.S. and Puppet Bases Attacked
- Successive Uprisings of the Urban and Rural Populations
- Setting Up of the "Alliance of National Forces for Independence and Peace" Which Calls on the People to Rise Up and Overthrow the Traitors' Power

### EDITORIAL

FOR months, Johnson and Westmoreland have been repeating that the "Viet Cong" discriminated by terrible blows from U.S. forces, are panting for breath, that the South Viet Nam people are gradually rallying around the "elected" government of Saigon, that the four-stage war plan of the U.S. Command is progressing as predicted by the Pentagon's electronic brains.

And yet, the whole of South Viet Nam is now ablaze! In Saigon, U.S. forces are unable to defend even the U.S. embassy, reputed impregnable. Over 60 urban centres and almost all U.S. and puppet air bases, for three days running, are fiercely attacked by the same "Viet Cong" thought to be near exhaustion. U.S. and puppet forces lose control of important cities, suffer serious losses, while many of their material and logistical installations are destroyed.

The U.S. Command had carried its inhumanity and arrogance to the point of shortening, then abolishing altogether the "traditional" Tet truce: now it is receiving a deserved punishment.

Numerous units of the puppet army, which Westmoreland said were being consolidated, have mutinied or rallied the people's forces. The puppet army and administration pathetically propped up by dint of dollars and electoral forces are collapsing.

The people of towns and cities, in an irresistible general upsurge, have broken the military and police vice in which they were caught; they are now hunting down traitors, torturers, fascist agents of the Americans, and helping the popular armed forces. Revolutionary and patriotic committees, guerrilla and self-defence groups are being rapidly formed. The U.S. Command is reduced to sending bombers against populous quarters of Saigon, Hue, thereby showing its barbarity and powerlessness.

In Washington, Johnson spends sleepless nights, repeatedly convenes the National Security Council without being able either to correctly assess the situation or to take an appropriate decision. Both the civilian and military leaders are bewildered, and are blustering about the severe "losses" inflicted on the Vietnamese patriots cannot hide the fact that the U.S. Command has lost all control of the situation.

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- The Puppet Administration Shattered in Vast Regions
- N.F.L. Order to the Armed Forces and People: "Let's All March Forward to Wipe Out the U.S. Aggressors and the Thieu-Ky Clique!"
- The People's Forces Control Many Cities and Towns Including Hue, Nha Trang, Da Lat, Ben Tre and Saigon Main Wards

# THE WHOLE OF SOUTH VIET NAM IN EFFERVESCENCE

## SOUTH VIET. NAM N.F.L. ORDER TO ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE: Let's All March Forward to Wipe Out the U.S. Aggressors and the Thieu-Ky Clique

The Central Committee of the N.F.L. launched on January 30 the following appeal to the P.L.A.F. and people of South Viet Nam:

In recent years, the struggle of our South Vietnamese people for national salvation has won resounding victories. The situation at home and abroad is very favourable to our people's liberation revolution.

The U.S. is finding itself in serious passivity, failure and predicament, while the puppet army, a mercenary instrument of the U.S., is heading toward complete disintegration.

The decayed, rotten and impotent puppet administration has revealed more and more its treacherous features.

On the occasion of the Lunar New Year Festival this year, in compliance with the aspiration of the entire people and proceeding from the respect of the traditional customs of the nation, the N.F.L. ordered a seven-day suspension of military attacks so that everybody could enjoy the festive days in peace. To conceal their dark design, the U.S. and the Thieu-Ky clique also spoke of ceasefire but they declared that they would observe only a 48-hour truce. However, they betrayed their own words and cut the truce down to 30 hours, then called off the truce in 5 northern provinces of South Viet Nam throughout January 29 and 30, 1968 (that is the 30th day of the 12th month and the 1st day of the Lunar New Year). Finally they completely cancelled their deceitful truce order.

## PRESIDENT NGUYEN HUU THO'S APPEAL TO CIVIL SERVANTS, OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF THE PUPPET REGIME

FOR a long time now, you have pondered over your lot while serving with the puppet army and administration, paid and commanded by the Americans. You have been despised by the Yanks and commanded by the chief Vietnamese traitors. You have been disgraced and kept aloof by the people. In your heart of hearts you are also aware that the U.S. aggressors have brought in bombs, shells and troops to trample upon the ancestral land, you have clearly seen the decay and corruption and the traitorous nature of the topmost traitors, Thieu and Ky, who know but to scramble for power and pocket dollars. Undoubtedly your conscience has more than once been tormented, and as a result you might have nurtured the illusion about the so-called "U.S. ally" and Thieu-Ky "nationalism." Now, what do you think about all these things? You might have sometimes been stung by the so-called U.S. military power, by the shrill roar of U.S. tanks and planes, by the amount of U.S. bombs, shells and dollars which run into the millions and millions.

But nowadays, even the most dull-minded persons cannot ignore a naked truth: All the U.S. financial resources, all amount of U.S. hardware, all U.S. brutality and perfidy have only failed to subdue the Vietnamese people but have also been appropriately countered by the strength of our nation's indomitable and staunch spirit.

The U.S. and satellite troops are being reduced to serious passivity and defeatism. Consequently, they are dragging you into an unprecedentedly difficult and dangerous position.

The topmost Vietnamese traitors, along with their puppet administrative apparatus, are utterly corrupt, divided and collapsing.

The U.S. aggressors and the Vietnamese traitors have sown untold mourning and suffering all over our Fatherland and have perpetrated irreparable social evils which smear our nation's praise-worthy spiritual and moral values. They can wreak havoc on Viet Nam and its people's vegetation on Viet Nam land, but they can never overcome the indomitable spirit of genuine Vietnamese, which has been steered and tempered for 4,000 years.

In the meantime, they ordered the bombing and shelling of heavily populated areas, prevented all puppet troops and personnel of the puppet administration from going out of their garrisons and offices and did not let our compatriots and even personnel of the puppet administration and army enjoy Tet festival.

Thus, the U.S. and the Thieu-Ky clique have trampled upon all aspirations and interests of all sections of our people and continued attacking, massacring and suppressing our people even during the traditional Tet holidays, seriously offending the sacred national feelings of our people. The savage and shameful acts of the U.S. and the Thieu-Ky clique have given rise to deep anger among various strata of our people throughout the country, among the personnel of the puppet army and administration and also among the people in the world. Our people have shown a deep hatred and contempt for the U.S. and the Thieu-Ky clique and cannot forgive them for their crimes.

In face of this situation, the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Front orders all the People's Liberation Armed Forces, the forces of the political struggle and all members of the organizations affiliated to the Front together with other patriotic forces and the entire people to resolutely and duly punish the U.S. aggressors and the Thieu-Ky clique of traitors.

Compatriots, cadres and fighters, March valiantly forward! We shall win!

Things are quite clear. In the last few days, you have the opportunity to see for yourselves the invincible and magnificent strength of the patriotism of our entire people. You have seen with your own eyes the utter disintegration and the traitorous structure of the Thieu-Ky clique and the impotence and weakness of the half-million U.S. troops. Our people have seen up with the force of an avalanche throughout the length and breadth of the country, and the deluge of anger is flowing: The earth is shaking everywhere.

Many members of Regiment 45, Division 1 and many functionaries, officers and soldiers in Saigon, My Tho, Ben Tre, Can Tho, Ca Mau, Tra Vinh, Quang Tri, Da Nang, Nha Trang, etc., have got wise to the situation, and, clearly and in time, associated themselves with the life of the Fatherland and the people, and together with the people, risen up to save the country and have been punished.

Friends who have the sense of patriotism but are still seized with dismay and bewilderment at the crossroads!

Friends who are still reluctant and hesitant and still adopt a wait-and-see attitude! The opportunity has offered itself.

The road to victory lies ahead of you. The call for national salvation has been clarified by your ears.

The light of truth is blazing in front of you. The Viet Nam spirit is stirring in your conscience.

What are you still waiting for? Decide your own destiny! Take part in the fight to save the country and your homes!

Get rid of any gloom in your conscience! The road to action has been wide open before you.

Turn your guns on the aggressors and the traitors!

Abandon the life of mercenaries and return to your native village!

(Continued page 6)

## The "Alliance of National Forces for Independence and Peace" Calls on the People to Rise Up and Overthrow the Thieu-Ky Traitors' Power

Giai Phong Press Agency special correspondent in Saigon reported that on Jan. 31, 1968, the National Leading Committee of the Alliance of National Forces for Independence and Peace called on the South Vietnamese people to rise up and wrest back power. The appeal reads in full as follows:

**Compatriots,**

THE revolution we have been longing for has already taken place. The population of heroic Saigon and the Revolutionary Army are storming the "Independence Palace" and the premises of the Thieu-Ky puppet administration's main institutions.

For many years we have been living in shame and misery because we lost our national independence, and were lorded over by a number of traitors.

We cannot go on living as slaves! We are determined to rise up for the conquest of power, that is independence, peace, freedom and a healthy and well-off life.

The Alliance of National Forces for Independence and Peace declared that its objectives are:

1. Resolutely to overthrow the Thieu-Ky puppet administration and set up an administration which truly represents all the sections of the South Vietnamese people.

2. Resolutely to restore national independence and sovereignty: the United States must put an end to its unjust war and withdraw all the U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam.

3. Resolutely to re-establish peace and build an independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral South Viet Nam.

4. To hold consultations with the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation so as to work together for the materialization of the aforesaid aspirations.

**Compatriots,**

The hour to rehabilitate our Fatherland and liberate ourselves has struck! Let all men and women rise up! Storm Thieu-Ky's hide-outs!

Overthrow the anti-popular and anti-national power!

Immediately establish a revolutionary power! Immediately set up revolutionary armed forces and patriotic organizations!

Punish and arrest the cruel agents of Thieu-Ky and foreign countries!

Actively support the Revolutionary Army in the fulfilment of its duty!

We call on the officers and men of the "Republican Army" and the police force to side with the people and surrender their weapons to the revolutionary forces.

We call on those who have gone astray to awaken rapidly. Those who show repentance and are eager to achieve exploits will enjoy leniency. Those who deliberately oppose the revolution will be severely punished.

We call on the U.S. and satellite troops to end all military activities and refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of the South Vietnamese people.

We call on the American people, for the sake of justice and humanity, to side with the South Viet Nam revolution.

We call on all countries friendly to the South Vietnamese people, on all the organizations and personalities in the world who sympathize with them, to lend active support to our just action.

**Compatriots,**

We do not want to live in slavery! We do not want a dictatorial, military and police regime!

We do not want unemployment and bankruptcy! We do not want to see our national ethics destroyed!

We are resolved to achieve our legitimate aspirations by every means. Whoever is the enemy of the revolution, however he wants to intimidate us and sabotage our present revolution, we will stand firm and not retreat one step.

We shall die rather than live in slavery again. Let us all go forward!

Let the revolution triumph! Long live independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral South Viet Nam!

# THE WHOLE OF SOUTH VIET NAM IN EFFERVESCENCE

## Appeal of the "Revolutionary Armed Forces Command" for a General Offensive Against the U.S. and Puppet Forces

According to Giai Phong Press Agency, on Jan. 31, 1968 the Revolutionary Armed Forces Command, the leading body of the patriotic revolutionary forces in South Viet Nam, which is conducting a general offensive to overthrow the Thieu-Ky administration and erect back national independence, peace, democracy and happiness to the people, issued an appeal to the population. Full text follows:

**COMPATRIOTS,**

THE general offensive against the Thieu-Ky clique that we have been longing for has taken place.

Voicing the will and indignation of all our people, the Revolutionary Armed Forces have fired at our common sworn enemy.

We wish to tell you that it is our resolve to overthrow the Thieu-Ky traitors' power and to suppress those who for years have massacred, repressed and mangled our compatriots. The aim of our struggle is to achieve national independence and peace for our country and democracy and happiness for our people.

We shall set up a power all of our own, a power in the service of the Fatherland and the people.

In order to enable the Army to fulfil its sacred and heavy task, we call on you to:

1. Pool your efforts with us in order to attack and pursue the U.S. and puppet forces;
2. Help us arrest all the cruel agents of the U.S. and its puppets.

Sons of the people, the Revolutionary Armed Forces pledge themselves to work with might and main to secure victory for our Fatherland and people at any cost.

## The "Front of Alliance for National Independence, Democracy and Peace" in Hue

ACCORDING to Giai Phong Press Agency, after the attack against Hue during the night of Jan. 30 and the small hours of Jan. 31, 1968, the "Front of Alliance for National Independence, Democracy and Peace" of Hue city has been set up and issued an appeal made by the doctor of ethnology Le Van Hui, professor at Saigon and Hue universities. The appeal reads in part:

"We want: National independence and sovereignty

Democratic liberties, Peace, neutrality, Food, clothing and land."

"The Front of Alliance for National Independence, Democracy and Peace" organizes cadres, organizations and people's forces—youth, women, students—of Hue city who have been struggling unrelentingly over the last 15 years against the U.S. aggressors and their quislings, "to rise up in arms to overthrow the traitors Thieu-Ky, force U.S. associations have been rapidly set up and worked frantically against the aggressors. Their patriotic-minded youth and citizens have set up patrimonial

## The Viet Nam Fatherland Front Hails the Recent Victories of the Revolutionary Forces

AT its enlarged extraordinary session held on February 1, 1968 under the presidency of Ton Duc Thang, the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front issued a statement warmly welcoming the resounding victories won by the revolutionary forces in South Viet Nam.

The statement said in part:

"The repeated resounding victories won by our compatriots in the South over the last few days have filled all our people and friends in the five continents with great joy. In the dusk of the victory of the Winter of 1967 and Spring of 1968, our fighters and compatriots in South Viet Nam and cities including Saigon, Hue, Da Nang, and many other bases throughout South Viet Nam. Our co-ordinated their action with the People's Liberation Armed Forces and got control of many rural areas, of Hue city, and at the same time very heavy setbacks Saigon and many other urban centres.

"These are very big military and political victories never won so far by the South Viet Nam people and at the same time very heavy setbacks Saigon and many other urban centres.

"All our country hails the glorious deeds of the People's Liberation Armed Forces and people, their patriotic forces and the insurgent forces in the

puppet army have performed in South Viet Nam towns and cities.

"These victories are due to the deep patriotism of our people and to their deep hatred for the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys who have committed crimes against our people for decades. These victories have been won thanks to the mobilistic solidarity of our people on the basis of the N.F.L. Political Programme. Progressive people in the world are praising these magnificent exploits and urge us to march forward.

"The brilliant victories achieved by our people in the South during the last few days substantiate the wonderful force of the invincible people's war, the powerful offensive on the great front, the tremendous growth and the certainly victorious position of the heroic army and people of South Viet Nam.

"The struggle we are waging will still face great trials. President Ho Chi Minh said, 'The U.S. imperialists are very much afraid of the people's war, the powerful offensive on the great front, the tremendous growth and the certainly victorious position of the heroic army and people of South Viet Nam.'

"...Responding to President Ho Chi Minh's appeal, our 31 million compatriots and fighters throughout the country are resolved to devote heart and soul to winning final victory over the U.S. aggressors and traitors to the country."

## THE SOUTH VIET NAM REVOLUTION WILL SURELY SCORE MORE BRILLIANT SUCCESSES

THE Hanoi press has warmly welcomed the resounding victories won by the revolutionary forces of people of South Viet Nam over the U.S. and quislings.

In its editorial of February 2, 1968 under the headline The Whole of South Viet Nam Rumbles Vigorously Forward with an Irresistible Mettle, Nhan Dan wrote that the violent revolutionary storm which has taken place in the last three days is the manifestation of the huge revolutionary force of the people's war, of the bloc of broad national union fighting against the U.S. aggressors under the guidance of the N.F.L. Political Programme.

Nhan Dan stressed:

"PARALLEL with the wave of uninterrupted offensives of the people's armed forces, various sections of the urban and rural populations have simultaneously risen up to U.S. puppet yoke and control many localities. The revolutionary mettle is seething in cities and towns, chiefly Saigon, Da Nang and Hue regarded since long by the aggressors and traitors as their strong and bases. There, millions of people, that no anti-revolutionary force can hamper the will for independence and freedom of an entire people. With these most powerful and resolute uprisings, the people's war can hammer the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys have come to grief. They prove that the neo-colonialist policy and the perfidious political deceit of the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys have come to grief. They prove that no anti-revolutionary force can hamper the will for independence and freedom of an entire people. 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# THE WHOLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM IN EFFERVESCENCE

- Revolutionary Forces Launch Powerful Attacks Everywhere
- Puppet Administration Shattered in Vast Regions
- The Enemy Suffers Particularly Heavy Losses

**SAIGON:** The U.S. Embassy, the "Presidential" Palace, the Superintendent of Police, the H.Q. of Puppet Inter-Arms Command and Navy, the "National" Radio and Tan Son Nhut Airbase Violently Attacked.

ran high: at the U.S. Embassy, for instance, at least 200 Yankees were killed or wounded, according to Western agencies.

**HUE:** The P.L.A.F., Revolutionary Armed Forces and Insurgent Population Control the City and Repel all Enemy Counter-Attacks; Many U.S. and Puppet Units Wiped Out.

THE revolutionary forces began their attacks toward 3 a.m. on Jan. 31, 1968; they could occupy five stories of the U.S. Embassy building and penetrate into the premises of the "Independence" Palace, Thieu's residence. The H.Q. of the puppet Inter-Arms Command was occupied and the Saigon Broadcasting Station entirely destroyed. Many sectors of Tan Son Nhut airbase were controlled by the revolutionaries who also cut the road to Saigon. The H.Q. of the Marines and paratroopers and the Saigon military sector were violently assaulted.

The people have come out into the streets to demonstrate against the Thieu-Ky clique and the U.S. aggressors and hunt cruel agents. Meetings of intellectuals, students, traders and industrialists were held to discuss the programme worked out by the newly set up "Alliance of National Forces for Independence and Peace." Many town wards of Saigon - Gia Dinh - Cho Lon were under the control of the revolutionary forces.

The Yankees and their quislings mislaid their planes against many quarters of the city. Their casualties

AFTER 35 minutes of fighting, the revolutionary forces got control of the city at 6.30 a.m. (local time) on Jan. 31. The H.Q. of puppet Infantry Division 1 was stormed. The local radio station was taken undamaged. Puppet Armoured Regiment 7 stationed near the city was wiped out. The old imperial citadel and many barracks of the puppet army fell into the hands of the revolutionary forces. Over 2,000 persons detained in the provincial prison were set free after an attack of the P.L.A.F. with the assistance of patriotic-minded guards. Many urban centres in the vicinity were liberated. The puppet administration was liquidated; many high-ranking officials and their American "advisors" were killed or captured.

The "Front of Alliance for National Independence, Democracy and Peace" was set up and issued a manifesto calling on the people to rise up.

The Yankees bombed many quarters of the city. The U.S. Marines and puppet army units counter-attacked but were repelled with heavy losses.

Meanwhile, the district capitals of Phu Trach, Quang Dien, Phu Loc, were liberated by the revolutionary forces. The U.S. base at Phu Bai, 15 km south-east of Hue, pounded by the P.L.A.F. artillery, suffered heavy losses.

Enemy losses in Hue: at least 3 puppet battalions were wiped out, a U.S. armoured regiment, 3 battalions and 2 companies of the puppet army badly mauled, 39 tanks and armoured cars destroyed, and 6 planes and helicopters downed.

**DA NANG:** The Airbase and Helicopter Parking Ground Violently Pounded Many Times. The Revolutionary Forces Occupy Many Quarters of the City for Days Running. At Least 70 U.S. Aircraft Destroyed or Damaged on Jan. 30.

THE 30,000 U.S. Marines and South Korean mercenaries as well as the great number of puppet troops could not prevent the P.L.A.F. and revolutionary armed forces from breaking into that city of 150,000 souls and striking at the biggest U.S. base in South-East Asia. The population took

actively part in the battles and in suppressing the enemy's repressive apparatus.

In the southeast of Da Nang, Hoi An and Tam Ky, provincial capitals of Quang Nam and Quang Tin provinces, were completely under the control of the revolutionary forces after fierce battles.

At a dozen kilometres from Tam Ky the U.S. airbase at Chu Lai was violently shelled by the P.L.A.F.

Many district capitals in these two provinces were liberated. South of the 17th parallel, Quang Tri town, 60 km northwest of Hue, and La Vang post were invaded and occupied by the revolutionary forces. Dong Ha, a U.S. base which directly supplied the U.S. positions on Highway 9 and along the demilitarized zone and other bases, was shelled by the P.L.A.F.

**60 Other Towns and Urban Centres Rise Up Against the American Aggressors and Their Quislings. Many Localities Have Been Liberated Including the Towns of Nha Trang, Da Lat, Ban Me Thuot, Kon Tum, Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, Vinh Long, Chau Doc.**

IN the Western High Plateaux, the provincial administrative quarters at Kon Tum were occupied by the P.L.A.F. on Jan. 30; Tan Canh near Dak To was liberated.

In Gia Lai province, Pleiku, its capital, and the U.S. Holloway camp, 3 km from the town, were violently assaulted. At least 13 helicopters were destroyed. The administrative and military quarters (particularly the H.Q. of the puppet Second Army Corps) suffered heavy losses.

In Ban Me Thuot, capital of Dac Lac province and "political capital" of the puppet administration in the Western High Plateaux, the insurgent population and revolutionary armed forces swollen by units of the puppet army, got control of the town and its periphery.

## OPERATIONS IN SAIGON-CHOLON IN THE FIRST DAYS OF THE UPRISING (Arrows show enemy positions attacked)

- (1) Thieu's "Presidential" Palace - (2) U.S. Embassy - (3) H.Q. of puppet Navy - (4) Base of Marines - (5) Saigon Broadcasting Station - (6) H.Q. of puppet Inter-Arms Command - (7) Military quarters - (8) H.Q. of Saigon Army Command - (9) Race-course - (10) Police Superintendence - (11) Saigon Police H.Q. - (12) (13), (14) Warehouses.
- (Municipal Theatre - (D) Central Station - (B) Central Market - (C) Zoological and Botanical Garden - (E) Wharves.



Many district capitals were liberated such as Lac Tien and Buon Ho.

Da Lat, a big town and mountain resort, was liberated on the night of January 31. All administrative offices, the "Summer Palace" of the Saigon top officials and provincial organs were seized unscathed.

In the coastal provinces of Central and South Trung Bo, the H.Q. of puppet Infantry Division 2, the C.P. of the military sector in Quang Ngai town and the airfield (8 km from the town) were stormed on January 31. Many district capitals were freed; many bridges were destroyed.

On the same day, Qui Nhon, provincial capital of Binh Dinh, built on a peninsula and defended by units of South Korean mercenaries, was attacked. The local radio station was seized. The enemy suffered heavy losses and withdrew to his positions. The chopper parking field of U.S. First Air Mobile Division at Bong Son was shelled.

Tuy Hoa, capital of Phu Yen province, was assaulted on the night of Jan. 30, as well as many district capitals.

(Continued page 6)

## At Saigon Army H.Q.

THE puppet army H.Q. attacked at the very start of the popular uprising. Saigon was entirely occupied on February 1. The following report by a participant in the operation and released by Giai Phong Radio deals with the first phase of the attack - Ed.

THE short briefing made by Ba, commander of our unit, filled us with joy. To-night, we should have the honour of attacking the puppet army headquarters set up in the northern suburb of Saigon. Our shots would give the signal for simultaneous attacks on enemy positions in the Saigon-Cho Lon area. Our mission consisted in striking and pinning down the 8,000-strong enemy garrison so as to enable our friendly units to perform their respective tasks.

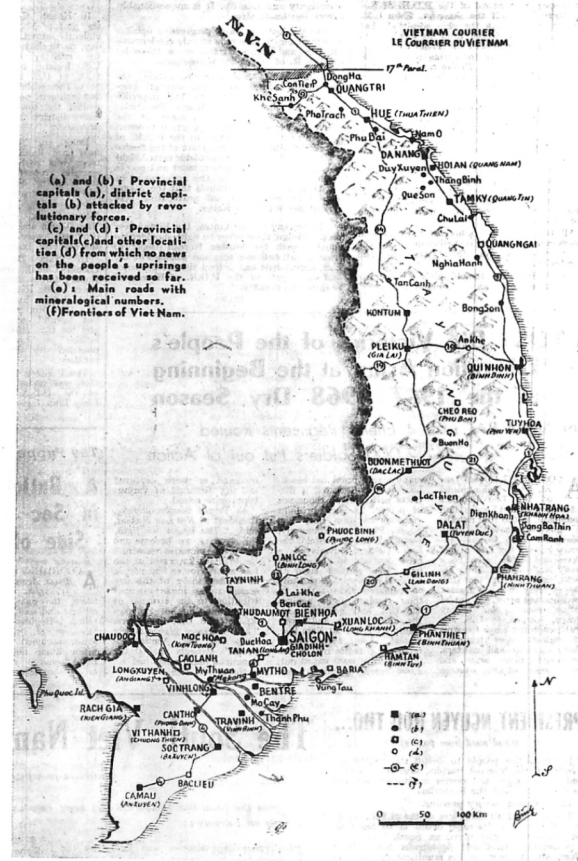
None of us seemed to be impressed by the numerical superiority of the enemy. Having for long operated in the heart of our own native town, Saigon, we had been used to such unequal clashes.

A two-pronged offensive was launched. At 1.30 a.m. on January 31, 1968, my group reached entrance No 5 after having

neutralized four guard-posts with a few bursts of gunfire. The engagement began immediately. A minute later, the second group commanded by Ba moved in under shower of bullets and shells. Entrance No 5 was taken and puppet troops were repelled with heavy casualties. Trucks full of G.I.'s driving past the entrance were hit by our A.T. shells. The ground was strewn with dead U.S.

and puppet troops. We jumped over them to carry on our assault. Our messenger, a 15-year-old Saigonesse girl, moved under shower of bullets and shells, gathered ammunition and weapons from the dead enemy and gave them to us. She also proved to be a good shot. Every combatant competed in shiftness and gallantry.

Thus, in spite of its numerical inferiority, our small unit could capture a key position, entrance No 5, keep it for ten hours running. We pinned down the enemy who, after vainly counter-attacking us, suffered 400 casualties. Our mission being achieved by noon, we withdrew into neighbouring quarters, waiting for other missions.



## Situation up to February 1, 1968

According to additional information supplied by Giai Phong Press Agency, the following towns should be mentioned in category (a) representing the provincial capitals attacked by the revolutionary forces (from North to South): Quang Ngai, Da Lat, An Lac (Dinh Long), Phan Rang, Tuy Ninh, Thu Dau Mot, Phan Thiet, Moc Hoa, Tan An, Cao Lanh, Ba Ria, Bac Lieu.



## SEIZURE OF THE PUEBLO — A LEGITIMATE ACT OF THE P.D.R. OF KOREA

ON Jan. 23, the American ship *Pueblo* was engaged in spying activities in the territorial waters of the P.D.R. of Korea. It was seized by a patrol of the P.D.R. of Korea navy 7 km off the coast. Even L.B. Bucher, commanding the ship, admitted that he had received orders from his superiors to operate in the waters of the P.D.R. of Korea and the P.D.R. of Korea for spying purposes. All the equipment on the *Pueblo* revealed that it was an espionage ship despite its appearance as an "experimental station."

Though caught red-handed, the U.S. did not acknowledge its culpability and even refused to threaten Johnson, hurriedly convened the National Security Council and immediately called up 15,000 U.S. troops to threaten the North Korean government. The carrier *Enterprise* bound for Viet Nam received orders to keep close to the North Korean territorial waters, opposite Wonsan. From their bases in Japan, 36 F-4 and F-105 jets were sent to South Korea. Furthermore Johnson schemed to call an "emergency session" of the U.S. Security Council to examine the "case."

All this desperate action of the American rulers testifies to their bellicism but at the same time betrays their weakness and perplexity.

The seizure by the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, an independent and sov-

erain country, of a U.S. intelligence ship operating in its territorial waters, is obviously an act indispensable for the defence of its sovereignty and security. It is unquestionably a very legitimate step.

Over the last few days, progressive opinion in many countries has been rightly condemning the U.S. and supporting the action taken by the P.D.R. of Korea for self-defence.

In its January 20, 1968 declaration, the government of the D.R.V.N. strongly condemned the criminal act of the U.S. imperialists against the P.D.R. of Korea. The declaration stressed "The government of the D.R.V.N. wholeheartedly supports the correct position of the government of the P.D.R. of Korea and affirms that its seizure of the *Pueblo* is a step justified by the inviolable sacred right of self-defence of the government and people of the P.D.R. of Korea. The government of the D.R.V.N. firmly demands that the American government end all provocative acts against the P.D.R. of Korea."

Under any circumstances, the Vietnamese people pledge themselves to fight shoulder to shoulder with the brother Korean people to frustrate all bellicose acts and schemes of the U.S. imperialists and defend the independence and sovereignty of the P.D.R. of Korea and reunify the country."

## LAOS: Big Victories of the People's Liberation Army at the Beginning of the 1967 - 1968 Dry Season

IN NAM BAC: — 4 Enemy Regiments Routed  
— 2,000 Soldiers Put out of Action

ACCORDING to the Jan. 15, 1968 communiqué of the Liberation Armed Forces High Command, in the first month of this dry season — from November 1967 to January 1968 — the Lao armed forces and people fought back many large-scale nibbling attacks of the signal progress and skilfully co-ordinated their action in this, results of the fight against the U.S. and quinsles, for the independence and sovereignty of Laos. At Nam Bac, *Patet Lao* Press Agency reported that 21 regiments of the puppet army were wiped out, 2,000 enemy soldiers sur-

rendered or were captured and 633 firearms of various types were seized. As *Patet Lao* Press Agency reported, President of *Ne Lao Habsai*, said, "The longer we fight, the stronger we become, the bigger victories we win, the brilliant successes of the Lao armed forces and people at the beginning of this dry season are an important contribution to the struggle of the Indo-Chinese peoples against the U.S. aggressors. These successes give a strong fillip to the Vietnamese people's struggle against the American imperialists and for national salvation."

## PRESIDENT NGUYEN HUU THO...

(Continued from page 2)

Join with the people to defeat the aggressors, overthrow the topmost traitors, save the country and your homes and render meritorious services to the people and the Fatherland!

The situation is very pressing. The sole and ultimate aim of the N.F.L. is to save the country. Its eager desire is to set up an independent and sovereign South Viet Nam, a peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, with a view to the reunification of our beloved Fatherland — Viet Nam.

For the sake of the great cause, the Front is ready to welcome officers and men who are against Thieu Ky and who forsake the traitorous army and the rotten puppet administration. It is ready to welcome them to the Front, on its side and let them join the Front, as clearly defined in its Political Programme.

The Vietnamese people will certainly win. The U.S. imperialists are doomed to failure. The traitorous chiefs will certainly be punished.

Let us seize this rare opportunity and act in a way to be worthy of our forebears Nguyen Hue, Nguyen Dinh Chieu and Truong Con Nguoi, whose reputation will live forever, to deserve being the sons of a heroic nation, so as to save your honour and your life.

February 1, 1968

## The South Viet Nam Revolution ...

The Quan Doi Nhan Dan (People's Army) wrote editorially on February 1:

"THE resounding victories won lately by the South Viet Nam armed forces and people in the achievement of the military and political strength of all revolutionary and patriotic forces in South Viet Nam, including the patriotic-minded soldiers and officers in the puppet army who have risen up against the U.S. and the Thieu-Ky clique. This is a new development of the revolutionary tide in South Viet Nam. These are the outcome of the fighting spirit of the Liberation Armed Forces. These victories testify to the great possibilities, the potentiality and very rich experience of the South Viet Nam revolutionary forces, chiefly the urban population and inhabitants of the surrounding countryside. The truth of these victories is that the South Viet Nam, regarded by the enemy as their safe refuges, are in fact his

## REVOLUTIONARY FORCES LAUNCH POWERFUL ATTACKS...

(Continued from page 3)

In Khanh Hoa province, the port of Nha Trang was violently attacked the same day, particularly the C.P. of the military quarter, the base of the P.L.A.F. H.Q. of U.S. special forces No. 7. The revolutionary forces and insurgent population controlled the town as well as many district capitals in the province.

Dong Ba Thin airfield, near Cam Ranh (U.S. naval base) was shelled by the revolutionary forces. Reports stated that all the aircraft on that field had been destroyed.

Phan Rang and Phan Thiet towns, capitals of Ninh Thuan and Binh Thuan provinces, were stormed on the night of January 31.

In Nam Bo (formerly Cochinchina), the revolutionary forces attacked the towns of Ba Rin, Tay Ninh, Binh Long, Xuan Loc, in the Dan Mot province, Ben Cat town and Binh Thuan provinces, were stormed on the night of January 31.

The U.S. big base at Hoi Hoa under a heavy attack of the P.L.A.F. and the Long Binh logistic base was

gusted by a big fire on Jan. 31. A great number of planes were destroyed and destroyed. A great number of planes were destroyed and destroyed.

In the Mekong Delta, up-anh took place in almost all the towns and provinces: Tan An (Long An), My Tho, Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, Long Xuyen, Soc Trang, Chau Doc, Cao Lanh, Moc Hoa, Cao Lanh, Soc Trang, Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, Chau Doc. Many districts were liberated. The revolutionary forces controlled such towns as Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, Chau Doc. Many airfields, division H.Q.'s, regiment C.P.'s were attacked or wiped out. Many units of the puppet army distinguished by themselves.

Battalion 33, Regiment 33, puppet Infantry Division 21, passed to the side of the insurgents. The puppet administration was liquidated in the countryside which was under the control of Saigon.

THE situation is in full development. In the flush of the revolutionary forces built up their own forces and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy, thus quickening the disintegration of the puppet army.

### The Puppet Army in Disintegration

### A Battalion of Saigon Army in Soc Trang Passes to the Side of the Revolutionaries

ACCORDING to *Giai Phong Press Agency*, on Jan. 31, 1968, in Soc Trang town, the patriotic-minded officers and soldiers of Battalion 33, Regiment 33, puppet Infantry Division 21, rose up in arms, occupied the ammunition dump and joined the revolutionary ranks. They erected barricades, and killed the cruel police agents.

In the whole of South Viet Nam, the U.S. puppet army has rallied the ranks of the insurgents with their arms. Many left their posts before the coming of the revolutionaries or sent emissaries to take over their posts.

(Continued from page 3)

"By simultaneously mounting violent attacks of a scale and strength unknown so far against nearly all the urban centres, military bases and other important installations of the U.S. and puppet administration, the South Viet Nam armed forces and people have made the best use of their initiative in all battlefields. These attacks show that not only can our people keep firm their initiative and defeat the enemy in mountain regions and in the plains, but they are entirely capable of attacking the enemy in urban centres where his main organs are concentrated and that they can change the situation of political, economic and military centres in a short time and extend their activities to immense regions.

"By replenishing its force in the course of the fighting and attacking unrelentingly the enemy, the revolution in South Viet Nam will inevitably make giant strides."

THE Vietnamese people were celebrating Tet. They were also welcoming Chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers Kossygin. It was Feb. 7, 1968: Washington picked that day to strike. Savage bombing began against the D.R.V.N. Never had there been such a cynical and brutal aggression: an over-industrialized power, without any declaration of war, suddenly hurled its aircraft against a country apparently without any means of defence. Never had international law and the

North Viet Nam's economic infrastructure would also bring socialist construction, if not to a permanent, at least to a prolonged, standstill. The countries of the Third World would for a long period of time be asked to go the socialist way is to run the risk of Washington's brutal oppression.

BUT electronic computers have not prevented Washington from committing a triple error: military, political, economic. The D.R.V.N. has inflicted heavy losses on U.S. aviation (2,749 planes shot down so far). Her people and armed forces, heavily united, are more combative than ever. Socialist building is carried on in various forms. The U.S. Command has been compelled to ask for more reinforcements every month without being able to improve a military situation which worsens with each passing day. It has not been able to hand in hand into cogwheels which it could no longer control. Dollars, and aircraft are swamped up in Viet Nam in a war with no end in sight, which disrupts everything: political stability in the U.S. and its global strategy, and the value of the U.S. dollar.

The men in the White House have started grumbling that it is not their fault if the war continues and is intensified, and that the cause lies in Han's "intransigence." "It is the wicked bomb that started the fight," wails the wolf.

The recent declaration by Mr. Nguyen Duy Trinh, Foreign Minister of the D.R.V.N., once again drove the men in Washington to the wall. Goliath has proved not by discourses but by deeds. The best way for a gangster to shake up good faith is to stop his gangster's actions. Everywhere, in the U.S. and other countries, socialist and non-socialist people and governments have been solidly to the aggressors: "Stop your war acts against the D.R.V.N. instead of pouring out torrents of words."

Johnson, Dean Rusk and other kooks keep harping on the same old string, demanding that something should be given them in return. The gangster is demanding money from his victim. In fact, the U.S. government has been landing more troops in South Viet Nam and escalating its air war on the North. It openly talks about setting up an "electronic barrier" in Laos, and attacking Cambodia. Many U.S. officials publicly urge intensification of the war. The hope for an enemy victory is still alive, given all its economic and military potential, still lingers in Washington.

What is required from the men in Washington is not more speeches, more "peace" plans, but deeds. It would be vain to rely on their good will or good faith. One should force them to end their war of aggression, which is being conducted in a most barbarous manner against a whole people.

The Viet Nam people are ready to carry on the fight until their independence and freedom are recognized, just as they are ready to make peace the day their fundamental national rights are respected.

The more U.S. imperialism persists in its aggression, the heavier its final defeat will be. The time is definitively over when counter-revolution could with impunity devour other peoples. In their neo-colonialist policy, they run the risk of breaking their claws and fangs.

UP TO FEBRUARY 3, 1968

2,749 U.S. PLANES WERE DOWNED OVER THE D.R.V.N.

## EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 1)

It has foreseen neither the violence of the revolutionary forces' attacks, nor the degree of violence of the puppet army and administration. More particularly, it has not foreseen the scope of the popular uprising in towns and cities. The rural and mountain areas have been freed of American rule since long, but the Yanks had kept the illusion that, owing to the presence of considerable army and police forces and to corruption and demagogy, the urban populations have remained if not on their side, at least resigned to servitude.

They did not understand that the struggle for independence, peace and democracy was smouldering and dragging in broad strata of the population. Not only workers and young people, but also intellectuals, businessmen, traders, many soldiers, officers and functionaries of Saigon have risen up in a magnificent way and joined the fighting forces of the people.

Thus, on the military as well as political planes, an entirely new situation has emerged in South Viet Nam.

Military initiative is entirely in the hands of the popular forces. The U.S. Command is completely in a state of shock. Its adversary is going to strike: near the 17 parallel, in Central Viet Nam, or in Saigon itself! The puppet army, that crutch on which it has been leaning, proves more shaky than ever. Spread thinner than ever, U.S. forces suffer blow upon blow for several days, not knowing when it may be to react.

On the political plane, the balance-sheet is even more disastrous for the Americans.

Washington had thought it could terrorize, corrupt, buy, bribe, and control the South Viet Nam population; but here they are, all fighting against the aggressors and considerably strength-

ening the national union front, the alliance of forces struggling for independence, peace, democracy, all ready to vote to the end the holy fight for the fatherland and freedom. In this setting atmosphere were born the "Alliance of National Forces for Independence and Peace" and the "Command of the Revolutionary Armed Forces," the new catalysts of the movement.

One can easily imagine the utter collapse of the thin credibility Johnson, Westmoreland, Rusk and other U.S. leaders may still keep in American and world public opinion.

Events in South Viet Nam have revalorized in the whole world. More than ever, the socialist countries, the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America, the forces of peace, democracy and progress in the world, are applauding the victories of the Viet Nam people. They know that it is up to them to intensify aid and support to the Viet Nam people so as to contribute to the quick restoration of peace and put an end to U.S. aggression.

One can foresee that Washington will redouble its cruel actions against the South Viet Nam population and intensify its barbarous undertakings against the North, and that American capitalism will bring imaginary victories.

But whatever actions the Americans may take, the Viet Nam people have won a crucial victory, their national struggle is making new steps forward. Of course, more trials await them, but it is not less certain that they will reap even more important successes. For their armed forces as well as their political forces are growing while their enemy is caught in insoluble contradictions.

President Ho Chi Minh's New Year appeal:

"Forward! Total victory will certainly be ours. The revolution is a true prophecy."

## U.S. Prisoners Set Free

NORTH VIET NAM

SOUTH VIET NAM

PROMPTED by the D.R.V.N. policy of humanitarianism and conciliation, the General Political Department of the V.N.F.A. has, on the occasion of Mass Than Lunar New Year, released three American prisoners captured in North Viet Nam who have shown repentance during their detention. They are:

— Morris Miller, Overly, Major, service number FR-45607, West Virginia.

— David Paul Matheny, Ensign, service number 30183, Ohio.

— Jon David Black, captain, service number FR-55413, Tennessee.

— Jose Agosteo Santos, 23, service number 30183, Ohio. — Jose Agosteo Santos, 23, service number 30183, Ohio. — Jose Agosteo Santos, 23, service number 30183, Ohio.

# INITIAL BALANCE SHEET OF THE FIRST THREE DAYS OF THE PEOPLE'S UPRISING IN SOUTH VIET NAM

From January 30 to February 1, 1968, the revolutionary forces:

- Hammered at 33 towns and provincial capitals and 31 urban centres and district capitals in 34 provinces;

- Attacked or controlled 35 key organs and bases of the U.S. and quislings, including the "Presidential" palace, the U.S. Embassy, the H.Q. of Inter-Arms Command, the H.Q. of Saigon special region, the Police H.Q., the H.Q. of puppet Marines, the H.Q. of puppet paratroops, the H.Q. of four army corps and many division H.Q.s and regiment C.P. .

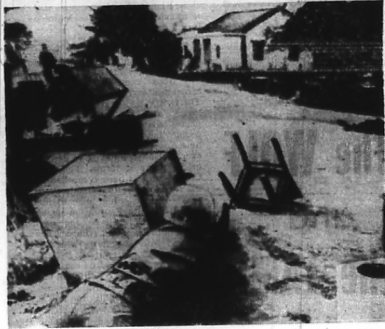
- Stormed almost all the 24 airbases and airfields (at least 130 planes and helicopters were destroyed on the airfields of Da Nang and Vinh Long alone).

- Attacked or occupied 5 broadcasting stations in the cities and many radio stations in smaller towns.

- Paralyzed completely many communication lines such as Highway No 1 (section between Quang Tri and Da Nang), and Highway No 4 from Saigon to the provinces in the Mekong Delta.

Battalion 3, Regiment 33, puppet Division 21 passed to the side of the insurgents.

U.S. puppet troops beating a retreat in Da Nang, under the attack of the revolutionary forces.



## THE FOREIGN PRESS AND THE RECENT EVENTS IN SOUTH VIET NAM

THE successful repeated attacks launched by the South Viet Nam revolutionary armed forces and people since Jan. 30, 1968 against enemy bases have had a great repercussion in the world.

**Pravda** (U.S.S.R.) wrote on January 31 that "the recent important attacks of the patriotic forces and towns and main U.S. military bases in South Viet Nam exposed the allegations on the exhaustion of the N.F.L. forces spread in the U.S. for propaganda purpose to hoodwink public opinion before the holding of the presidential elections." The Soviet paper went on, "The aggressors are more and more sinking in the quagmire of a war without being able to find a way out. For instance, U.S. losses in South Viet Nam last year doubled those of 1966 and exceeded by one-third those of the last 5 years put together. Meanwhile, as reported at the January enlarged session of the Central Committee of the C.C. of the N.F.L., last year the Liberation forces were considerably strengthened and equipped. The Pentagon also admits this."

**Pravda** also pointed out that "Washington and its henchmen in Saigon wanted to minimize their defeats and conceal the scale of these defeats. The war escalation in Viet Nam will only drive the U.S. deeper into an impasse and will bring it nothing other than a bitter failure."

**Investita** (U.S.S.R.) wrote on February 1, "The recent events show that the South Viet Nam patriotic forces can operate successfully

in the heart of the refuge of the aggressors, fighting street battles in the major towns as well as in the jungle."

**Renmin Ribao** (China) and other papers such as, **Jiefangjun Bao** and **Peking Ribao**, following street battles in the major towns as well as in the jungle. "In an all-out offensive, the South Viet Nam people's armed forces attacked enemy's bases... They shook the enemy's refuges in Saigon and sowed terror in the ranks of the Yankees and their quislings... The armed forces and people of South Viet Nam have shown their skill and valiance by wiping out the enemy to celebrate Tet."

**Renmin Ribao** said in its editorial of Feb. 2, "The Chinese people hail these splendid victories and warmly congratulate the heroic South Viet Nam people." The paper went on, "The victorious attacks of the South Viet Nam people's armed forces and population during the first days of Tet Festival (Lunar New Year) are a due punishment meted out to the U.S. pirates who are widening their war of aggression and killing the Vietnamese people. These attacks confirm the invincible might of the South Viet Nam P.L.A.F."

"These new victories in spring have thrown Washington into an utter confusion."

The paper stressed, "The death's throes of the U.S. aggressors are useless and nothing can shake the iron will of the heroic Vietnamese people who are resolute to win the U.S. imperialists to win final victory."

**Rodong Shinmoon** (P.D.R. of Korea) praised in its Feb. 1 issue the brilliant victories of the South Viet Nam P.L.A.F. and people who "have delivered" staggering blows at the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys by launching powerful attacks everywhere."

**Zeri I Popallit** (Albania) wrote in its Jan. 31 issue, "These lightning attacks which the Pentagon could not anticipate have further increased panic, confusion and demoralization among the ranks of the U.S. aggressors... The Albanian people wholeheartedly greet the new brilliant victories of the heroic South Viet Nam people. We assure the brave fighters of South Viet Nam that we will always be on their side till final victory against the common enemies—the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their henchmen."

The paper said that "these operations testify fully to the capability of the South Viet Nam P.L.A.F. and people to wipe out any enemy position." In conclusion it underlined that "the Vietnamese people will defeat the U.S. aggressors and will surely fulfil their task of national liberation."

**Granma** (Cuba) devoted the front page of its recent issue to report on the attacks launched by the patriotic armed forces and to print the map of Saigon mentioning the offensives of the patriotic forces, chiefly on the U.S. Embassy and the "Independence" Palace, Thieu's residence. The paper carried an article with the following three-line title.

**South Viet Nam Guerrillas! Attack Saigon Still More Powerfully!** In this article, the paper stressed the severe punishment meted out by the N.F.L. to the saboteurs of the Lunar New Year truce.

**Trybuna Ludu** (Poland) wrote in its Feb. 1 editorial, "The well-prepared operations of the South Viet Nam patriots at present are a development of the large-scale offensive by the patriotic forces initiated in January this year, at the time and place and in the form of their choosing. Even American military commentators arrived at the conclusion that a new situation has emerged on the South Viet Nam battlefield. It is widely acknowledged that the patriotic forces is tying down the enemy combat forces in all provinces of South Viet Nam."

**L'Hemantité**, organ of the French Communist Party, underlined that the recent attacks were the biggest offensive launched so far by the South Viet Nam armed forces. The patriots showed that they held the initiative everywhere, which makes it possible for them to decide where and when to fight and to keep the American command in "suspense."

**Campuchea** (Cambodia) wrote that "With a perfect co-ordination and a rare nation-wide command, those who are pejoratively named by the Yankees as Viet Cong have shifted to a general offensive while the crack G.I.'s are pinned down in the northeastern part of South Viet Nam as the Sanh and along the demilitarized zone."

"How can the U.S. military command and Saigon men explain this disaster? This time, given the psychological repercussions of the operation, it is a Dien Bien Phu to the 10th power" the paper went on and stressed the passiveness and perplexity of the Johnson clique in face of the powerful attacks of the patriotic forces in South Viet Nam.

**Mail Radio** broadcasted on Jan. 31, 1968 "The new attacks of the Liberation Armed Forces show the magnificent heroism of the Liberation fighters and the strength of the N.F.L. They show that the Front has enjoyed the unstinted support of the entire people and is a powerful and invincible political and military organization."

**AFP** on Jan. 31, said, "Complete surprise, serious worry, less confidence in the effectiveness of the U.S. military strength in Saigon and the rest of Viet Nam, such is the reaction of American competent circles to the news about the violent combats that have erupted in the very heart of Saigon."

"The occupation, even temporary but with comparative ease, of the American Embassy gardens, this fortress said to be impregnable, is a harsh blow at the pride of the American" (rather American government leaders—Ed.)

**Reuter** added colours to these remarks, "The size and ferocity of the co-ordinated attacks in Saigon and other key South Vietnamese centres took the U.S. and its allies badly by surprise."